[24th February 1930

(5) GRANT XXXV—AGENCY TRACTS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XXXV—Agency Tracts—Reserved.

" This House will remember that the Russellkonda Saw Mill which was one of the enterprises of the Forest department, was recently closed down, and as it was considered a commercial concern, it has had to be wound up as if it were a commercial undertaking. Enquiries were, therefore, made in various departments of Government as to whether they could find a use for the buildings and furniture at Russellkonda. The result of the enquiry was a report that they will be useful for the new Public Works Department Division which has been opened at Russellkonda for the development of the Ganjam Agency. In order to put the matter on a proper footing, it is necessary to transfer Rs. 1,19,535 from the Public Works Department to the credit of the Forest department. For this reason, I beg to move that this grant be made."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

V

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS PROPRIETARY ESTATES' VILLAGE SERVICE ACT, 1894, AND THE MADRAS HEREDITARY VILLAGE OFFICES ACT, 1895, (BILL NO. 4 OF 1930).

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to present the report [a] of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Madras Proprietary Estates' Village Service Act, 1894, and the Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act, 1895, and move that the Bill as amended by the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" I second it."

5 p.m. The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Bill to amend the Madras Proprietary Estates' Village Service Act, 1894, and the Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act, 1895 (Bill No. 4 of 1930), be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clauses 1 to 3 and preamble.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 and the preamble were then put, passed and added to the Bill.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be passed into law and, in doing so, I wish only to express my grateful thanks to the Government and the party leaders of the various sections of the House for the facilities they gave me for bringing the Bill to the stage it has now reached."

The motion was duly seconded.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XIV at pages 158-160 infra.

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* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Mr. President, Sir, I should like to congratulate the hon. Mover of this Bill (laughter) on having introduced a Bill which came from the Select Committee without a single minute of dissent ; I beleive, it is going to be passed unanimously by this House. When legislation has been passed by this House it is natural that the Government should hesitate to amend it unless they are fully satisfied that it is necessary or that it is the view of the general public of this Presidency that the amendment should be carried out. The Act which is to be amended by this Bill not only affects the administration, but also the social custom as regards the manner in which these hereditary offices should pass from father to son or from one holder of the office to another. In this respect therefore this legislation partakes of the nature of social legislation and in a matter of this kind the Government are particularly careful not to interfere unless they are satisfied that there is the general desire that we should interfere. As the result of the introduction of this Bill by the hon. Mover we have ascertained that there is unanimity of opinion in this House that this change should be made and I am grateful, Sir, to my hon. Friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar for bringing forward this Bill and enabling Government to carry out an amendment in the law which is so universally desired. I congratulate my hon. Friend." (Applause.)

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" Mr. President, Sir, on this motion of my hon. Friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar I wish to say, in addition to what has been said by the hon. the Revenue Member, that this Bill is not only a very welcome one but that it has been long overdue. During the last few years certain individuals whose right it was to inherit these offices have been denied the inheritance of them simply because an amendment of the kind now made, was not brought forward. It was more or less the duty of the Government to have thought over the matter and introduced an amending Bill like this. It is a pity they did not. Now, though late, it has come and it is quite welcome."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Bill to amend the Madras Proprietary Estates' Village Service Act, 1894, and the Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act, 1895 (Bill No. 4 of 1930), be passed into law."

The motion was adopted and the Bill was passed into law.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock the next day.

VI

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. * G.O. No. 1856,[a] Development, dated 30th October 1929, issuing orders on the recommendations of the Committee appointed to suggest a scheme of reorganization of the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras.

2. * G.O. No. 2158,[b] Development, dated 3rd December 1929, recording the Audit Report and Accounts of the Government Fisheries Cannery, Chaliyam, for the year ending 31st March 1929.

* Circulated to members by post. [a] Printed as Appendix XV at pages160-171 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix XVI at pages 171—179 infra.